



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/049,331 | 06/05/2002 | Frank Wieczorek | 681008-2000 | 3614 |
| 20999 | 7590 | 03/23/2007 | EXAMINER | |
| FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG | | | BASIT, ABDUL | |
| 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. | | | | |
| NEW YORK, NY 10151 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3694 | |
| SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE | | MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE | |
| 3 MONTHS | | 03/23/2007 | PAPER | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/049,331 | WIECZOREK, FRANK |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Abdul Basit | 3694 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2002.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Keith (US Pub. No. 2001/0051909).

Regarding claim 1:

Keith teaches a support matrix for communication, wherein the matrix is at least four-dimensional, each matrix dimension includes at least one selection list, and the selection lists include at least a first initiator list, a second market segment list, a third product list, and a fourth trading scenario list. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 2:

Keith teaches the matrix according to claim 1, characterized in that each selection list includes a number of elements, which can be individually marked for selection or unselection, where each marking of one of the elements can preferably be stored and/or recalled. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 3:

Keith teaches the matrix according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that each element is scalable. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 4:

Keith The matrix according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the elements of the initiator list can be used to select at least between buyer and/or seller. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 5:

Keith teaches the matrix according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the elements of the market segment list can be used to select at least one market segment. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 6:

Keith teaches the matrix according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the elements of the product list can be used to select at least one product group and/or a product. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 7:

Keith teaches the matrix according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the elements of the trading scenario list can be used to select at least one trading scenario. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 8:

Keith teaches the matrix according to one of the preceding claims, characterized by

means of at least one services list, the elements of which can be used to select a service provider. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 9:

Keith teaches the matrix according to claim 8, characterized in that the service provider to be selected can be a liquidating company, a transportation company, a logistics company, a filling company, a packing company, a bank, an insurance company, a laboratory, and/or the like. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 10:

Keith teaches the matrix according to claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the services list can be selected by means of the trading scenario list or represents a fifth dimension of the matrix. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 11:

Keith teaches the matrix according to one of the preceding claims, characterized by means of at least one company list. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 12:

Keith teaches the matrix according to one of the preceding claims, characterized by means of at least one product specifications list, the elements of which can be used to select product specifications. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 13:

Keith teaches the matrix according to claim 12, characterized in that the product specifications list can be selected by means of the product list. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 14:

Keith teaches a method for operating a trading center using a matrix according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the matrix is prepared by an operator, the matrix is called up by an initiator, preferably via the Internet, the called matrix is processed by the initiator, preferably at the initiator's workstation, the processed matrix is sent to the operator, preferably via the Internet, and the sent matrix is processed by the operator. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 15:

Keith teaches the method according to claim 14, characterized in that the operator includes an Internet platform operator and/or at least a service provider. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 16:

Keith teaches the method according to claim 14 or 15, characterized in that at least a first element of the selection lists is selected by the initiator, at least a second element of the selection lists is unselected by the initiator, and/or at least a third element of the selection lists is not processed by the initiator, where the trade is routed to the first element by the operator, the trade is not routed to the second element by the operator, and/or the third element is incorporated into the trade. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

Regarding claim 17:

Keith teaches the method according to claim 14 or 15, characterized in that the operator deliberately preserves the anonymity of the initiator. (see ¶ 43-46, and ¶ 57-58).

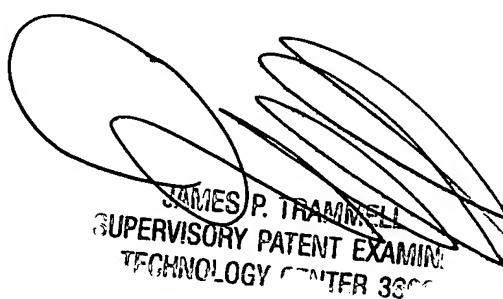
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdul Basit whose telephone number is 571 272-7246. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 571 272 6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

aqb



JAMES P. TRAMMELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3694